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Appl. No. 09/991,880 Amendment dated September 14, 2004 Reply to Office Action of September 3, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 23 with the following rewritten version:

The curved mounting surface 45 of the mounting portion 44 preferably has a radius of curvature Y of about 34.9 millimeters formed about center axis X. The curved mounting surface 45 of the mounting portion 44 and the curved mounting surface of the second clamping member 34 define a scat mounting post area (or simply a mounting area) with a transverse center plane CP being equally spaced and parallel to a transverse front plane FP passing through a forward most edge of the curved mounting surface of the second clamping member 34 and a transverse rear plane RP passing through a rearward most edge of the curved mounting surface of the first clamping member 32, as seen in Figure 4. Thus, if the seat post portion 14 has substantially the same curvature as mounting surface 45, the center plane P of the seat post portion 14 has the center axis X lying therein (as in the illustrated embodiment). In such an arrangement, the pivot axis A is preferably spaced a distance M of about 2.0 millimeters from the center plane P and a distance N of about 2.0 millimeters from the center axis X, as measured in a direction perpendicular to the pivot axis A.